

Hot Articles

“Month|2016”

Social Science



Title: [Performance and perception in the flipped classroom](#)
Author: Erik Blair | Chris Maharaj | Simone Primus
Journal: Education and Information Technologies
Volume: 21 **Issue:** 6 (November 2016) **Page:** 1465–1482
Doi: 10.1007/s10639-015-9393-5

Abstract

Changes in the conceptualisation of higher education have led to instructional methods that embrace technology as a teaching medium. These changes have led to the flipped classroom phenomenon - where content is delivered outside class, through media such as video and podcast, and engagement with the content, through problem-solving and/or group work, occurs in class. Studies investigating the impact of the flipped classroom have mainly looked at the student experience with little focus on whether exam outcomes are enhanced by flipping. An undergraduate Material Technology course at The University of the West Indies was taught in two formats over two successive years. The course was taught during the 2012/13 academic year in a 'traditional' format but, after reflecting on student feedback and personal pedagogy, the lecturer restructured the class and taught it in a flipped format during the 2013/14 academic year. This research examines whether the flipped format improved the learning experience in relation to exam performance and student perception. Data was gathered through analysis of course grades and student evaluation questionnaires. The lecturer's reflective comments were also reviewed before and after the study. Analysis of the qualitative data shows that the flipped format led to a slight improvement in how students perceived the course and the lecturer's reflection shows that they are keen to continue with the flipped format as it allowed more time for them to work with students at an individual level. While no significant change in relation to average cohort exam performance was found, fewer students in the flipped classroom achieved marks at the highest level. It is therefore recommended that practitioners who intend to flip their classroom pay as much attention to student performance as they do to student perception.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [Developing online learning resources: Big data, social networks, and cloud computing to support pervasive knowledge](#)

Author: Muhammad Anshari | Yabit Alas | Lim Sei Guan

Journal: Education and Information Technologies

Volume: 21 **Issue:** 6 (November 2016) **Page:** 1663–1677

Doi: 10.1007/s10639-015-9407-3

Abstract

Utilizing online learning resources (OLR) from multi channels in learning activities promise extended benefits from traditional based learning-centred to a collaborative based learning-centred that emphasises pervasive learning anywhere and anytime. While compiling big data, cloud computing, and semantic web into OLR offer a broader spectrum of pervasive knowledge acquisition to enrich users' experience in learning. In conventional learning practices, a student is perceived as a recipient of information and knowledge. However, nowadays students are empowered to involve in learning processes that play an active role in creating, extracting, and improving OLR collaborative learning platform and knowledge sharing as well as distributing. Researchers have employed contents analysis for reviewing literatures in peer-reviewed journals and interviews with the teachers who utilize OLR. In fact, researchers propose pervasive knowledge can address the need of integrating technologies like cloud computing, big data, Web 2.0, and Semantic Web. Pervasive knowledge redefines value added, variety, volume, and velocity of OLR, which is flexible in terms of resources adoption, knowledge acquisition, and technological implementation.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [Life Happens \(Outside of College\): Non-College Life-Events and Students' Likelihood of Graduation](#)

Author: Bradley E. Cox | Robert D. Reason | Samantha Nix | Megan Gillman

Journal: Research in Higher Education

Volume: 57 **Issue:** 7 (November 2016) **Page:** 823–844

Doi: 10.1007/s11162-016-9409-z

Abstract

Students' lives outside of college can have dramatic effects on academic outcomes (e.g., grades, persistence, graduation). However, the manner in which students' lives outside of college are referenced in college-effects models suggests some uncertainty among scholars as to which, and how, student experiences outside of an institution affect college student outcomes. Using longitudinal data from a racially diverse sample of 3914 students (997 White, 1051 Black, 915 Hispanic, and 951 Asian) attending 28 institutions, this study employs logistic regression models to examine relationships between three types of non-college life-events and students' likelihood of graduation. Specifically, we examine the impact of financial disruptions, grieving a friend's or family member's death, and other family situations that likely cause psychological distress for students. Results suggest that major life-events are both common (i.e., affecting over 52 % of students) and consequential (i.e., negatively affecting graduation rates), thus warranting increased attention from researchers, policy-makers, and practitioners.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [Resources and Research Production in Higher Education: A Longitudinal Analysis of Chinese Universities, 2000–2010](#)
Author: Liang Zhang | Wei Bao | Liang Sun
Journal: Research in Higher Education
Volume: 57 **Issue:** 7 (November 2016) **Page:** 869–891
Doi: 10.1007/s11162-016-9410-6

Abstract

In this study we examined the resource–research relationship at China’s research universities. The stochastic frontier production function was employed in analyses of a panel data set on a group of the most research-intensive universities in China from 2000 to 2010. Results suggested overall tight relationships between various resources (including human resources, research expenditures, and research equipment) and research publications. Distinct patterns emerged when research publications were disaggregated by fields [i.e., science and engineering (SE) vs. non-science and engineering (non-SE)] and publishing venues (i.e., domestic vs. international journals). Research publications in SE, especially those published in international journals, depended heavily on all three resources, while research in non-SE depended more on human resources. In addition, results suggested that research in SE had shifted its focus from domestic to international publications during this period.

Database

SpringerLink

Title: [The Best-Performing CEOs in the World.](#)

Journal: Harvard Business Review

Volume: 94

Issue: 11 (Nov2016)

Page: 41-57

Abstract

This is a challenging time to be a CEO. Around the world, economic growth is slow, political uncertainty undermines attempts to develop long-term plans, and shareholder activists have become powerful critics of business leaders. These forces help explain why the C-suite sometimes appears to have a revolving door. Is it any wonder so many CEOs focus on the short term? Against this backdrop, it's heartening to see some top executives implement long-term strategies and establish lasting track records. HBR's ranking of the world's 100 best CEOs is intended to highlight these individuals. It's based on performance on both financial and ESG measures over leaders' entire time in office—which comes to 17 years, on average, for the CEOs on the 2016 list. This group has delivered impressive results, producing an overall financial return of 2,091%, on average. But as the variety of the people on the list shows, there is no single path to success. Consider the three men at the top of the ranking: Lars Rebien Sørensen studied forestry before he joined Novo Nordisk more than 30 years ago and climbed through various operational roles to become CEO. Martin Sorrell earned an MBA and spent a decade in the ad industry before buying a stake in a shell company and building WPP—now the world's largest marketing-services firm—through a series of acquisitions. Pablo Isla studied law and worked in Spain's treasury ministry before taking the helm of the fast-fashion retailer Inditex. In this issue we feature an interview HBR editor Adi Ignatius did with the three leaders in late summer, in which they explore what it takes to fight short-termism and lead with a long view in today's turbulent environment.

Database

Business Source Complete

Title: [Right Tech, Wrong Time](#)

Author: Adner, Ron | Kapoor, Rahul

Journal: Harvard Business Review

Volume: 94 **Issue:** 11 (Nov2016) **Page:** 60-67

Abstract

Why do some transformative technologies dominate the market quickly, while others take decades to catch on? It's a function not just of the technologies themselves, say the authors, but also of their broader ecosystems (electric cars, for example, need a network of charging stations). The ecosystems of the legacy technologies matter too—they can sometimes be improved enough to prolong the life of the old technology. Analyzing the ecosystem dynamics in your industry can help you predict how quickly technological change will occur. For example, if the new technology is surrounded by viable complements and there's little room to improve the old technology's ecosystem, substitution is rapid (creative destruction). When the opposite conditions hold—the new technology's ecosystem needs work and the old technology can capitalize on improvements in the established ecosystem—the pace of substitution is very slow (robust resilience). The authors describe two other possible scenarios: robust coexistence of the two technologies, and the illusion of resistance (the old technology seems competitive for some time but quickly succumbs once the new technology's ecosystem is ready to roll). If you understand which scenario applies to you, you can better assess the threat of disruptive change—and use the authors' insights to respond effectively.

Database

Business Source Complete

Title: [Case Study: How Would You Save This Farm?](#)

Author: Reinhardt, Forest L.

Journal: Harvard Business Review

Volume: 94

Issue: 11 (Nov2016)

Page: 105-109

Abstract

A case study is presented that examines operations on Walker Farm in California. Particular focus is given to operations on the farm and the farm's management. Additional topics discussed include the CEO of the farm, Pete Walker, how the farm and its crops, including almonds and tomatoes, have been impacted by drought in California, board meetings at the farm and the allocation of resources. INSET: Question: What should Pete do with his 6,000 acres?.

Database

Business Source Complete

Title: [Determinants of Farmers' Land Use Decision-Making: Comparative Evidence From Thailand and Vietnam](#)

Author: Trung Thanh Nguyen | Loc Duc Nguyen | Rattiya Suddeephong Lippe | Ulrike Grote

Journal: World Development

Volume: 98 **Page:** 199–213

Doi: 10.1016/j.worlddev.2016.08.010

Abstract

Understanding farmers' land use decision-making is of interest to policy makers and scientific communities. Furthermore, comparing farmers' land use decision-making between countries offers a functioning instrument to enhance this understanding, since one country can benefit from the experiences of another. This study extends the sustainable livelihoods framework to examine and compare the factors affecting farmers' land use decision-making regarding land use choices and crop diversification. A panel dataset of 514 farm households in Ha Tinh (Vietnam) and 422 farm households in Ubon Ratchathani (Thailand) collected in 2007 and 2013 is used for the analyses. The results reveal that (i) farmers' land use decision-making is determined by various factors representing the livelihood platforms, weather shock experience and expectation, and physical-economic conditions of the living localities, and (ii) crop diversification is a weather shock-coping strategy of rural households. We suggest that (i) promoting farm land reconsolidation and privatization, (ii) enhancing access to credit sources and national electricity networks, and (iii) improving rural road conditions and attracting investments in rural non-agricultural sectors contribute to reducing farmers' vulnerability to climate variability.

Database

ScienceDirect

Title: [The Shanghai Effect: Do Exports to China Affect Labor Practices in Africa?](#)

Author: Christopher Adolph | Vanessa Quince | Aseem Prakash

Journal: World Development

Volume: 89 **Page:** 1-18

Doi: 10.1016/j.worlddev.2016.05.009

Abstract

To investigate whether Africa's exports to China influence labor practices in Africa, we reconsider the debate over trade's influence on regulatory standards in exporting countries. The first generation of trade-regulation scholars asked whether high levels of exports influenced regulatory standards of exporting countries, with inconclusive results. The second generation of scholarship focused not on how much a country exported but to whom it exported, identifying a "California Effect" by which firms and consumers in (mostly developed) importing countries projected their high regulatory standards on less developed export partners. Structural change—especially the rise of China as a major importer—poses a challenge to these optimistic findings. Drawing on insights from the analysis of compositional data, this paper introduces a third generation of trade-regulation research, which suggests examining not only with whom a country trades, but also how the composition of markets in a country's export basket reshuffles over time. Specifically, we explore the possibility of a "Shanghai Effect" whereby African countries begin to reflect the lower labor standards of China, which has emerged as a major destination for their exports. We show that when a country increases exports to China, the net effect on domestic labor standards depends critically on the labor practices of other export destinations compositionally displaced by China exports. Our analysis of a panel of 49 African countries for the period 1985–2010 produces a small continent-wide estimate of China's negative influence on African labor practices. In-sample simulation at the country level uncovers a moderate Shanghai Effect for a handful of countries only.

Database

ScienceDirect

Title: [Utilizing environmental information and pricing strategies to reduce externalities of tourism: the case of invasive species in the Galapagos](#)

Author: César Viteri Mejía | Sylvia Brandt

Journal: Journal of Sustainable Tourism

Doi: 10.1080/09669582.2016.1247847

Abstract

The increase in demand for nature-based tourism brings economic and educational benefits but risks the introduction of invasive species. Increasing the length of tourist trips can better balance these benefits and risks by maintaining revenues while reducing the number of unique contacts with tourists. Changing the relative prices of trips can induce tourists to take longer trips. We hypothesized that providing information about the negative externalities of tourism could improve the effectiveness of such pricing strategies.

We administered one of two discrete choice surveys to tourists considering a trip to the Galapagos. One of the surveys described the Galapagos as a fragile ecosystem susceptible to invasive species; the second described it as a standard nature-based destination. For each sample, we estimated the probability of the tourist choosing a short versus long trip, given the tourist's personal information and trip options presented to him. We then simulated the demand for trips using three pricing strategies. We found that providing information on invasive species significantly increased the efficacy of strategic pricing. We propose using a two-prong approach to tourism management: educate potential tourists about the islands' vulnerabilities, and simultaneously increase the per-day cost of short trips relative to that of longer trips.

Database

Taylor & Francis